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Date: Thursday, September 21, 2006 **MAIL STOP RCE**To: Examiner: LOPEZ, Michelle Group Art Unit: 3721Firm/Company: United States Patent and Trademark OfficeFax Number: 571-273-8300From: Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383 Matter Number: 1716299Serial No. U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10/524,710 Extension: 3919

Comments:

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION, ATTACHED.**

Sincerely,

Robert J. Schneider

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U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10/524,710

Attorney Docket No. 1716299

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|---|---|-------------------|----------------|
| In re Patent Application of: |) | Examiner: | Michelle LOPEZ |
| |) | | |
| Katsunori MANABE |) | Group Art Unit: | 3721 |
| |) | | |
| U.S. Serial No.: 10/524,710 |) | Confirmation No.: | 1401 |
| |) | | |
| International Appln. No. PCT/JP03/09137 |) | | |
| |) | | |
| Filing Date: January 19, 2005 |) | | |
| |) | | |
| For: DRIVER STRUCTURE OF STAPLER |) | | |

FILED VIA FACSIMILE TO 571-273-8300

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY
with
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Greetings:

This timely response is submitted with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR §1.114, in reply to the final Office Action mailed on June 23, 2006, wherein the Examiner:

1. Rejected Claims 1 and 3-4 under Section 102(b), as anticipated by Kuhns, U.S. Patent No. 6,071,053.
2. Rejected Claims 1 and 3-4 under Section 102(b), as anticipated by Ohmae, U.S. Patent No. 5,941,440.

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The following amendments and remarks are submitted in response.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.